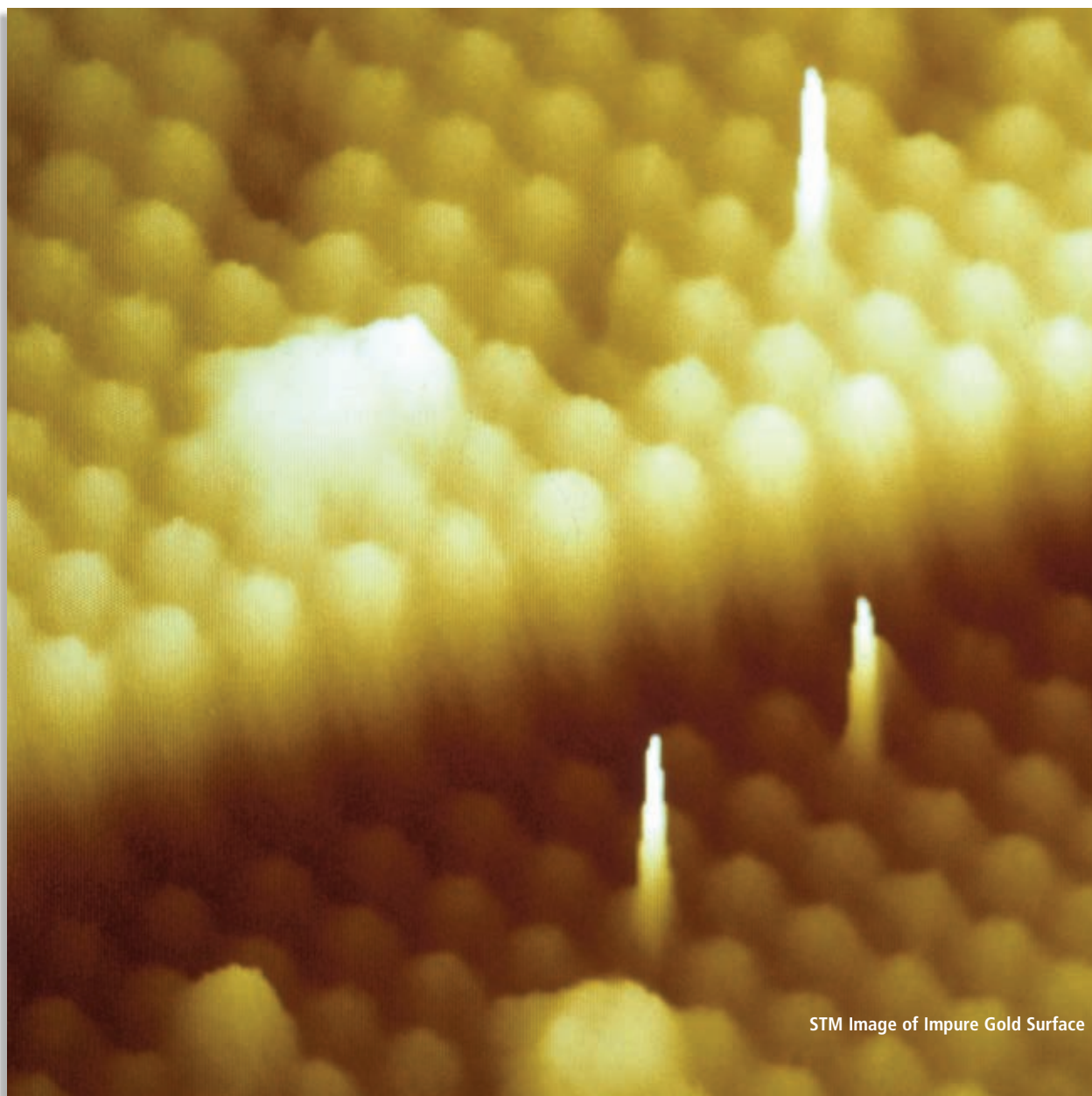


Atoms: The Building Blocks of Matter

An atom is the smallest particle of an element that retains the chemical properties of that element.



STM Image of Impure Gold Surface

The Atom: From Philosophical Idea to Scientific Theory

SECTION 1

OBJECTIVES

- Explain the law of conservation of mass, the law of definite proportions, and the law of multiple proportions.
- Summarize the five essential points of Dalton's atomic theory.
- Explain the relationship between Dalton's atomic theory and the law of conservation of mass, the law of definite proportions, and the law of multiple proportions.

When you crush a lump of sugar, you can see that it is made up of many smaller particles of sugar. You may grind these particles into a very fine powder, but each tiny piece is still sugar. Now suppose you dissolve the sugar in water. The tiny particles seem to disappear completely. Even if you look at the sugar-water solution through a powerful microscope, you cannot see any sugar particles. Yet if you were to taste the solution, you'd know that the sugar is still there. Observations like these led early philosophers to ponder the fundamental nature of matter. Is it continuous and infinitely divisible, or is it divisible only until a basic, invisible particle that cannot be divided further is reached?

The particle theory of matter was supported as early as 400 B.C. by certain Greek thinkers, such as Democritus. He called nature's basic particle an *atom*, based on the Greek word meaning "indivisible." Aristotle was part of the generation that succeeded Democritus. His ideas had a lasting impact on Western civilization, and he did not believe in atoms. He thought that all matter was continuous, and his opinion was accepted for nearly 2000 years. Neither the view of Aristotle nor that of Democritus was supported by experimental evidence, so each remained speculation until the eighteenth century. Then scientists began to gather evidence favoring the atomic theory of matter.

extension

Historical Chemistry

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Keyword: HC6ATMX

Foundations of Atomic Theory

Virtually all chemists in the late 1700s accepted the modern definition of an element as a substance that cannot be further broken down by ordinary chemical means. It was also clear that elements combine to form compounds that have different physical and chemical properties than those of the elements that form them. There was great controversy, however, as to whether elements always combine in the same ratio when forming a particular compound.

The transformation of a substance or substances into one or more new substances is known as a *chemical reaction*. In the 1790s, the study of matter was revolutionized by a new emphasis on the quantitative

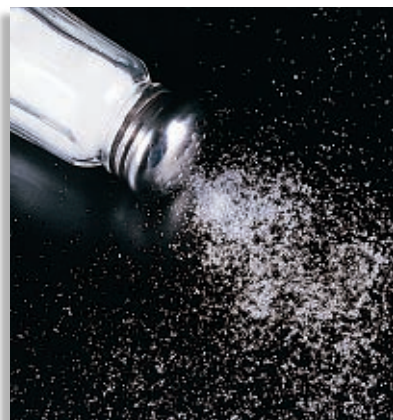


FIGURE 1 Each of the salt crystals shown here contains exactly 39.34% sodium and 60.66% chlorine by mass.

analysis of chemical reactions. Aided by improved balances, investigators began to accurately measure the masses of the elements and compounds they were studying. This led to the discovery of several basic laws. One of these laws was the **law of conservation of mass**, which states that mass is neither created nor destroyed during ordinary chemical reactions or physical changes. This discovery was soon followed by the assertion that, regardless of where or how a pure chemical compound is prepared, it is composed of a fixed proportion of elements. For example, sodium chloride, also known as ordinary table salt, *always* consists of 39.34% by mass of the element sodium, Na, and 60.66% by mass of the element chlorine, Cl. *The fact that a chemical compound contains the same elements in exactly the same proportions by mass regardless of the size of the sample or source of the compound is known as the law of definite proportions.*

It was also known that two elements sometimes combine to form more than one compound. For example, the elements carbon and oxygen form two compounds, carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide. Consider samples of each of these compounds, each containing 1.00 g of carbon. In carbon dioxide, 2.66 g of oxygen combine with 1.00 g of carbon. In carbon monoxide, 1.33 g of oxygen combine with 1.00 g of carbon. The ratio of the masses of oxygen in these two compounds is 2.66 to 1.33, or 2 to 1. This illustrates the **law of multiple proportions**: *If two or more different compounds are composed of the same two elements, then the ratio of the masses of the second element combined with a certain mass of the first element is always a ratio of small whole numbers.*

Dalton's Atomic Theory

In 1808, an English schoolteacher named John Dalton proposed an explanation for the law of conservation of mass, the law of definite proportions, and the law of multiple proportions. He reasoned that elements were composed of atoms and that only whole numbers of atoms can combine to form compounds. His theory can be summed up by the following statements.

1. All matter is composed of extremely small particles called atoms.
2. Atoms of a given element are identical in size, mass, and other properties; atoms of different elements differ in size, mass, and other properties.
3. Atoms cannot be subdivided, created, or destroyed.
4. Atoms of different elements combine in simple whole-number ratios to form chemical compounds.
5. In chemical reactions, atoms are combined, separated, or rearranged.

According to Dalton's atomic theory, the law of conservation of mass is explained by the fact that chemical reactions involve merely the combination, separation, or rearrangement of atoms and that during these processes atoms are not subdivided, created, or destroyed. This

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Topic: Atomic Theory

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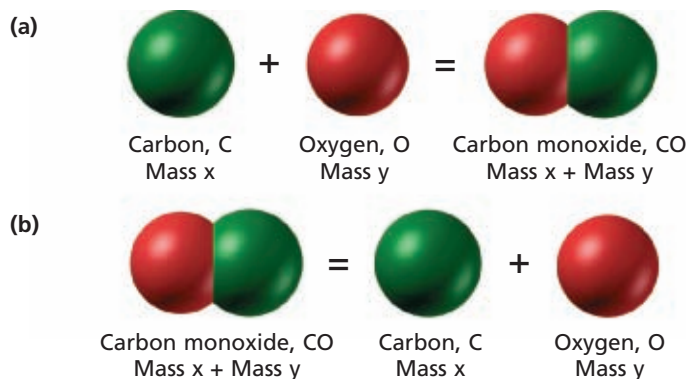


FIGURE 2 (a) An atom of carbon, C, and an atom of oxygen, O, can combine chemically to form a molecule of carbon monoxide, CO. The mass of the CO molecule is equal to the mass of the C atom plus the mass of the O atom. (b) The reverse holds true in a reaction in which a CO molecule is broken down into its elements.

idea is illustrated in **Figure 2** for the formation of carbon monoxide from carbon and oxygen.

The law of definite proportions, on the other hand, results from the fact that a given chemical compound is always composed of the same combination of atoms (see **Figure 3**). As for the law of multiple proportions, in the case of the carbon oxides, the 2-to-1 ratio of oxygen masses results because carbon dioxide always contains twice as many atoms of oxygen (per atom of carbon) as does carbon monoxide. This can also be seen in **Figure 3**.

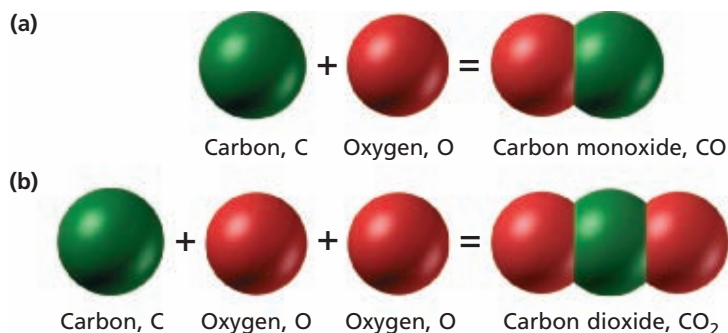


FIGURE 3 (a) CO molecules are always composed of one C atom and one O atom. (b) CO₂ molecules are always composed of one C atom and two O atoms. Note that a molecule of carbon dioxide contains twice as many oxygen atoms as does a molecule of carbon monoxide.

Modern Atomic Theory

By relating atoms to the measurable property of mass, Dalton turned Democritus's *idea* into a *scientific theory* that could be tested by experiment. But not all aspects of Dalton's atomic theory have proven to be correct. For example, today we know that atoms are divisible into even smaller particles (although the law of conservation of mass still holds true for chemical reactions). And, as you will see in Section 3, we know that a given element can have atoms with different masses. Atomic theory has not been discarded, however. Instead, it has been modified to explain the new observations. The important concepts that (1) all matter is composed of atoms and that (2) atoms of any one element differ in properties from atoms of another element remain unchanged.





Physical Chemist

Physical chemists focus on understanding the physical properties of atoms and molecules. They are driven by a curiosity of what makes things work at the level of atoms, and they enjoy being challenged. In addition to chemistry, they study mathematics and physics extensively. Laboratory courses involving experience with electronics and optics are typically part of their training. Often, they enjoy working with instruments and computers. Physical chemists can be experimentalists or theoreticians. They use sophisticated instruments to make measurements, or high-powered computers to perform intensive calculations. The instruments used include lasers, electron microscopes, nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometers, mass spectrometers, and particle accelerators. Physical chemists work in industry, government laboratories, research institutes, and academic institutions. Because physical chemists work on a wide range of problems, taking courses in other science disciplines is important.

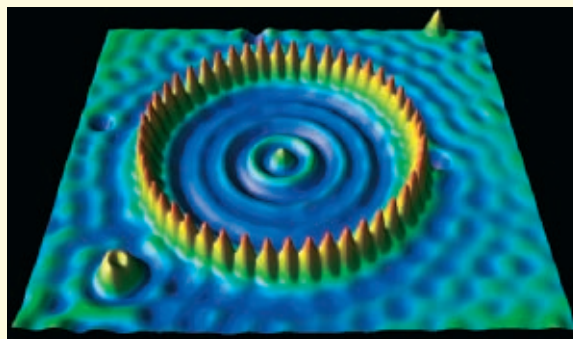
Scanning Tunneling Microscopy

For years, scientists have yearned for the ability to “see” individual atoms. Because atoms are so small, this had been nothing more than a dream. Now, the scanning tunneling microscope, STM, gives scientists the ability to look at individual atoms. It was invented in 1981 by

Gerd Binnig and Heinrich Rohrer, scientists working for IBM in Zurich, Switzerland. They shared the 1986 Nobel Prize in physics for their discovery.

The basic principle of STM is based on the current that exists between a metallic needle that is sharpened to a single atom, the probe, and a conducting sample. As the probe passes above the surface of the sample at a distance of one or two atoms, electrons can “tunnel” from the needle tip to the sample’s surface. The probe moves across, or “scans,” the surface of the sample. When the probe comes close to the electrons of an individual atom, a signal is produced. A weaker signal is produced between atoms. These signals build a topographical (hill and valley) “map” of conducting and non-conducting regions. The resulting map shows the position and spacing of atoms.

Surface chemistry is a developing subdiscipline in physical chemistry, and STM is an important tool in the field. Scientists use STM to study surface reactions, such as those that take place in catalytic converters. Other areas of research in which STM is useful include semiconductors and



▲ This STM image shows a “corral” of iron atoms on a copper surface.

microelectronics. Usually, STM is used with materials that conduct, but it has also been used to study biological molecules, such as DNA.

One innovative application of STM is the ability to position individual atoms. The figure shows the result of moving individual atoms. First, iron atoms were placed on a copper surface. Then, individual iron atoms were picked up by the probe and placed in position. The result is a “quantum corral” of 48 iron atoms on the surface of copper. The diameter of the corral is about 14 nm.

Questions

1. In addition to chemistry, what kinds of courses are important for a student interested in a physical chemistry career?
2. What part of an atom is detected by STM?



Constructing a Model

Question

How can you construct a model of an unknown object by (1) making inferences about an object that is in a closed container and (2) touching the object without seeing it?

Procedure

Record all of your results in a data table.

1. Your teacher will provide you with a can that is covered by a sock sealed with tape. Without unsealing the container, try to determine the number of objects inside the can as well as the mass, shape, size, composition, and texture of each. To do this, you may carefully tilt or shake the can. Record your observations in a data table.
2. Remove the tape from the top of the sock. Do *not* look inside the can. Put one hand through the opening, and make the same observations as in step 1 by handling the objects. To make more-accurate estimations, practice estimating the sizes and masses of some known objects outside the can.

Then compare your estimates of these objects with actual measurements using a metric ruler and a balance.

Discussion

1. Scientists often use more than one method to gather data. How was this illustrated in the investigation?
2. Of the observations you made, which were qualitative and which were quantitative?
3. Using the data you gathered, draw a model of the unknown object(s) and write a brief summary of your conclusions.

Materials

- can covered by a sock sealed with tape
- one or more objects that fit in the container
- metric ruler
- balance



SECTION REVIEW

1. List the five main points of Dalton's atomic theory.
2. What chemical laws can be explained by Dalton's theory?

Critical Thinking

3. **ANALYZING INFORMATION** Three compounds containing potassium and oxygen are compared. Analysis shows that for each 1.00 g of O, the compounds have 1.22 g, 2.44 g, and 4.89 g of K, respectively. Show how these data support the law of multiple proportions.

SECTION 2

OBJECTIVES

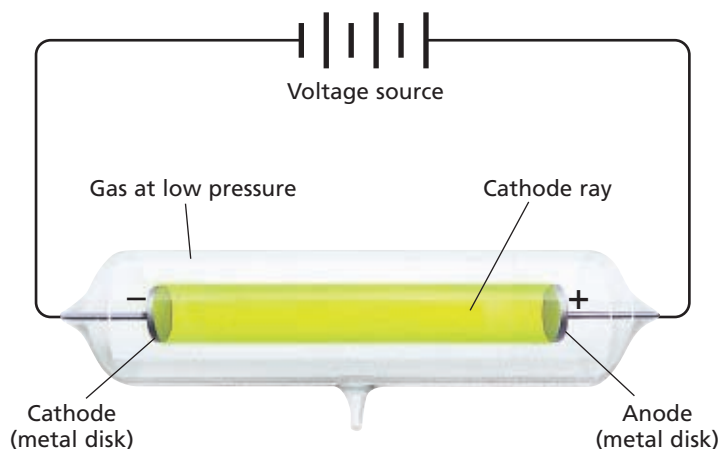
- Summarize the observed properties of cathode rays that led to the discovery of the electron.
- Summarize the experiment carried out by Rutherford and his co-workers that led to the discovery of the nucleus.
- List the properties of protons, neutrons, and electrons.
- Define *atom*.

The Structure of the Atom

Although John Dalton thought atoms were indivisible, investigators in the late 1800s proved otherwise. As scientific advances allowed a deeper exploration of matter, it became clear that atoms are actually composed of several basic types of smaller particles and that the number and arrangement of these particles within an atom determine that atom's chemical properties. Today we define an **atom** as the *smallest particle of an element that retains the chemical properties of that element*.

All atoms consist of two regions. The *nucleus* is a very small region located at the center of an atom. In every atom, the nucleus is made up of at least one positively charged particle called a *proton* and usually one or more neutral particles called *neutrons*. Surrounding the nucleus is a region occupied by negatively charged particles called *electrons*. This region is very large compared with the size of the nucleus. Protons, neutrons, and electrons are often referred to as *subatomic particles*.

FIGURE 4 A simple cathode-ray tube. Particles pass through the tube from the *cathode*, the metal disk connected to the negative terminal of the voltage source, to the *anode*, the metal disk connected to the positive terminal.



Discovery of the Electron

The first discovery of a subatomic particle resulted from investigations into the relationship between electricity and matter. In the late 1800s, many experiments were performed in which electric current was passed through various gases at low pressures. (Gases at atmospheric pressure don't conduct electricity well.) These experiments were carried out in glass tubes like the one shown in **Figure 4**. Such tubes are known as *cathode-ray tubes*.

Cathode Rays and Electrons

Investigators noticed that when current was passed through a cathode-ray tube, the surface of the tube directly opposite the cathode glowed. They hypothesized that the glow was caused by a stream of particles, which they called a cathode ray. The ray traveled from the cathode to the anode when current was passed through the tube. Experiments devised to test this

hypothesis revealed the following observations.

1. Cathode rays were deflected by a magnetic field in the same manner as a wire carrying electric current, which was known to have a negative charge (see **Figure 5**).
2. The rays were deflected away from a negatively charged object.

These observations led to the hypothesis that the particles that compose cathode rays are negatively charged. This hypothesis was strongly supported by a series of experiments carried out in 1897 by the English physicist Joseph John Thomson. In one investigation, he was able to measure the ratio of the charge of cathode-ray particles to their mass. He found that this ratio was always the same, regardless of the metal used to make the cathode or the nature of the gas inside the cathode-ray tube. Thomson concluded that all cathode rays are composed of identical negatively charged particles, which were named electrons.

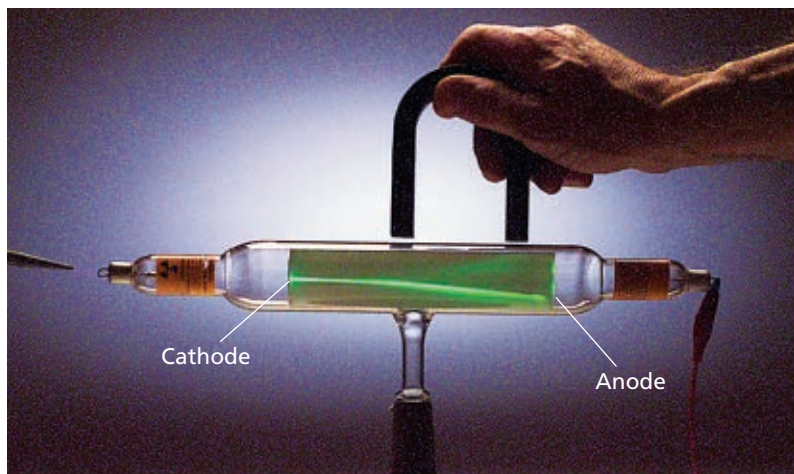


FIGURE 5 A magnet near the cathode-ray tube causes the beam to be deflected. The deflection indicates that the particles in the beam have a negative charge.

Charge and Mass of the Electron

Cathode rays have identical properties regardless of the element used to produce them. Therefore it was concluded that electrons are present in atoms of all elements. Thus, cathode-ray experiments provided evidence that atoms are divisible and that one of the atom's basic constituents is the negatively charged electron. Thomson's experiment also revealed that the electron has a very large charge-to-mass ratio. In 1909, experiments conducted by the American physicist Robert A. Millikan measured the charge of the electron. Scientists used this information and the charge-to-mass ratio of the electron to determine that the mass of the electron is about one two-thousandth the mass of the simplest type of hydrogen atom, which is the smallest atom known. More-accurate experiments conducted since then indicate that the electron has a mass of 9.109×10^{-31} kg, or 1/1837 the mass of the simplest type of hydrogen atom.

Based on what was learned about electrons, two other inferences were made about atomic structure.

1. Because atoms are electrically neutral, they must contain a positive charge to balance the negative electrons.
2. Because electrons have so much less mass than atoms, atoms must contain other particles that account for most of their mass.

Thomson proposed a model for the atom that is called the *plum pudding model* (after the English dessert). He believed that the negative electrons were spread evenly throughout the positive charge of the rest of the atom. This arrangement is similar to that of seeds in a watermelon: the seeds are spread throughout the fruit but do not contribute much to the overall mass. However, shortly thereafter, new experiments disproved this model.

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Topic: Subatomic Particles

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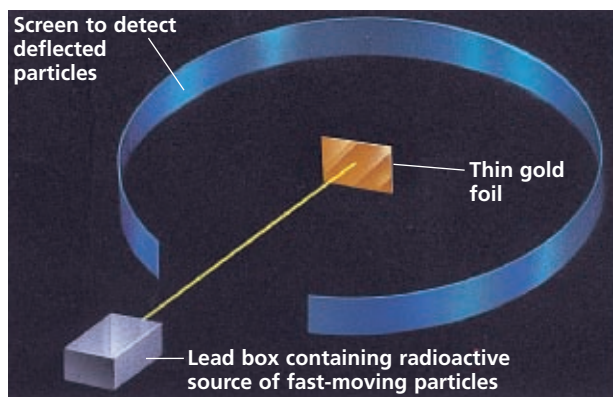
Discovery of the Atomic Nucleus

More detail of the atom's structure was provided in 1911 by New Zealander Ernest Rutherford and his associates Hans Geiger and Ernest Marsden. The scientists bombarded a thin piece of gold foil with fast-moving *alpha particles*, which are positively charged particles with about four times the mass of a hydrogen atom. Geiger and Marsden assumed that mass and charge were uniformly distributed throughout the atoms of the gold foil. They expected the alpha particles to pass through with only a slight deflection, and for the vast majority of the particles, this was the case. However, when the scientists checked for the possibility of wide-angle deflections, they were shocked to find that roughly 1 in 8000 of the alpha particles had actually been deflected back toward the source (see **Figure 6**). As Rutherford later exclaimed, it was “as if you had fired a 15-inch [artillery] shell at a piece of tissue paper and it came back and hit you.”

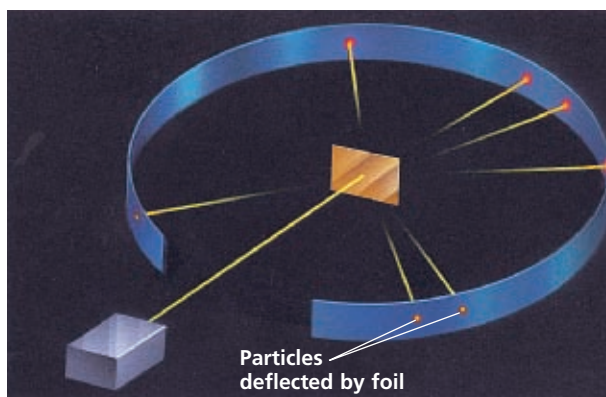
After thinking about the startling result for a few months, Rutherford finally came up with an explanation. He reasoned that the deflected alpha particles must have experienced some powerful force within the atom. And he figured that the source of this force must occupy a very small amount of space because so few of the total number of alpha particles had been affected by it. He concluded that the force must be caused by a very densely packed bundle of matter with a positive electric charge. Rutherford called this positive bundle of matter the nucleus (see **Figure 7**).

Rutherford had discovered that the volume of a nucleus was very small compared with the total volume of an atom. In fact, if the nucleus were the size of a marble, then the size of the atom would be about the size of a football field. But where were the electrons? This question was not answered until Rutherford's student, Niels Bohr, proposed a model in which electrons surrounded the positively charged nucleus as the planets surround the sun. Bohr's model will be discussed in Chapter 4.

FIGURE 6 (a) Geiger and Marsden bombarded a thin piece of gold foil with a narrow beam of alpha particles. (b) Some of the particles were deflected by the gold foil back toward their source.



(a)



(b)

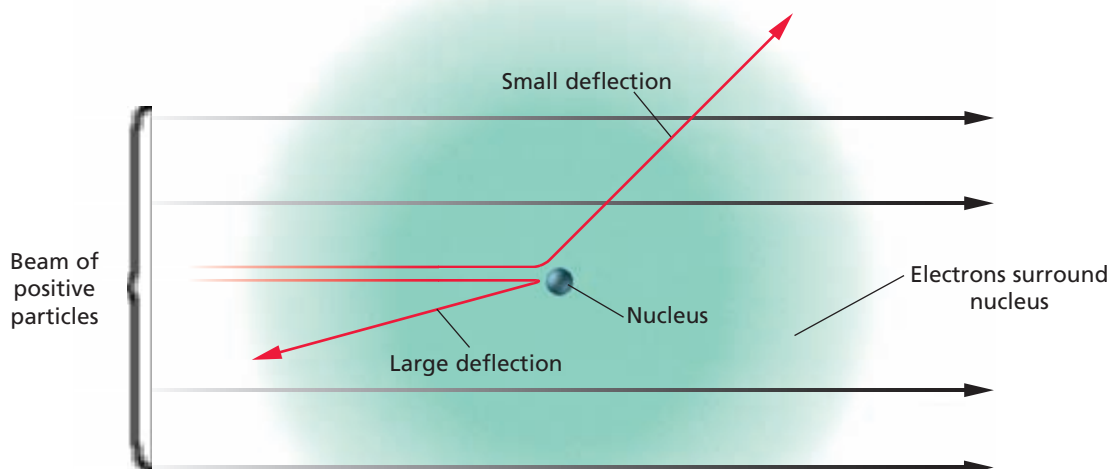


FIGURE 7 Rutherford reasoned that each atom in the gold foil contained a small, dense, positively charged nucleus surrounded by electrons. A small number of the alpha particles directed toward the foil were deflected by the tiny nucleus (red arrows). Most of the particles passed through undisturbed (black arrows).

Composition of the Atomic Nucleus

Except for the nucleus of the simplest type of hydrogen atom (discussed in the next section), all atomic nuclei are made of two kinds of particles, protons and neutrons. A proton has a positive charge equal in magnitude to the negative charge of an electron. Atoms are electrically neutral because they contain equal numbers of protons and electrons. A neutron is electrically neutral.

The simplest hydrogen atom consists of a single-proton nucleus with a single electron moving about it. A proton has a mass of 1.673×10^{-27} kg, which is 1836 times greater than the mass of an electron and $1836/1837$, or virtually all, of the mass of the simplest hydrogen atom. All atoms besides the simplest hydrogen atom also have neutrons. The mass of a neutron is 1.675×10^{-27} kg—slightly larger than that of a proton.

The nuclei of atoms of different elements differ in their number of protons and therefore in the amount of positive charge they possess. Thus, the number of protons determines that atom's identity. Physicists have identified other subatomic particles, but particles other than electrons, protons, and neutrons have little effect on the chemical properties of matter. **Table 1** on the next page summarizes the properties of electrons, protons, and neutrons.

Forces in the Nucleus

Generally, particles that have the same electric charge repel one another. Therefore, we would expect a nucleus with more than one proton to be unstable. However, when two protons are extremely close to each other, there is a strong attraction between them. In fact, as many as 83

TABLE 1 Properties of Subatomic Particles

Particle	Symbols	Relative electric charge	Mass number	Relative mass (amu*)	Actual mass (kg)
Electron	e^{-} , ${}_{-1}^0e$	-1	0	0.000 5486	9.109×10^{-31}
Proton	p^{+} , ${}_{1}^1\text{H}$	+1	1	1.007 276	1.673×10^{-27}
Neutron	n^{0} , ${}_{0}^1n$	0	1	1.008 665	1.675×10^{-27}

*1 amu (atomic mass unit) = $1.660\,540 \times 10^{-27}$ kg

protons can exist close together to help form a stable nucleus. A similar attraction exists when neutrons are very close to each other or when protons and neutrons are very close together. *These short-range proton-neutron, proton-proton, and neutron-neutron forces hold the nuclear particles together and are referred to as **nuclear forces**.*

The Sizes of Atoms

It is convenient to think of the region occupied by the electrons as an electron cloud—a cloud of negative charge. The radius of an atom is the distance from the center of the nucleus to the outer portion of this electron cloud. Because atomic radii are so small, they are expressed using a unit that is more convenient for the sizes of atoms. This unit is the picometer. The abbreviation for the picometer is pm ($1\text{ pm} = 10^{-12}\text{ m} = 10^{-10}\text{ cm}$). To get an idea of how small a picometer is, consider that 1 cm is the same fractional part of 10^3 km (about 600 mi) as 100 pm is of 1 cm. Atomic radii range from about 40 to 270 pm. By contrast, the nuclei of atoms have much smaller radii, about 0.001 pm. Nuclei also have incredibly high densities, about 2×10^8 metric tons/cm³.

SECTION REVIEW

- Define each of the following:
 - atom
 - electron
 - nucleus
 - proton
 - neutron
- Describe one conclusion made by each of the following scientists that led to the development of the current atomic theory:
 - Thomson
 - Millikan
 - Rutherford

- Compare the three subatomic particles in terms of location in the atom, mass, and relative charge.
- Why is the cathode-ray tube in **Figure 4** connected to a vacuum pump?

Critical Thinking

- EVALUATING IDEAS** Nuclear forces are said to hold protons and neutrons together. What is it about the composition of the nucleus that requires the concept of nuclear forces?

Counting Atoms

SECTION 3

OBJECTIVES

- Explain what isotopes are.
- Define *atomic number* and *mass number*, and describe how they apply to isotopes.
- Given the identity of a nuclide, determine its number of protons, neutrons, and electrons.
- Define *mole*, *Avogadro's number*, and *molar mass*, and state how all three are related.
- Solve problems involving mass in grams, amount in moles, and number of atoms of an element.

Consider neon, Ne, the gas used in many illuminated signs. Neon is a minor component of the atmosphere. In fact, dry air contains only about 0.002% neon. And yet there are about 5×10^{17} atoms of neon present in each breath you inhale. In most experiments, atoms are much too small to be measured individually. Chemists can analyze atoms quantitatively, however, by knowing fundamental properties of the atoms of each element. In this section, you will be introduced to some of the basic properties of atoms. You will then discover how to use this information to count the number of atoms of an element in a sample with a known mass. You will also become familiar with the *mole*, a special unit used by chemists to express amounts of particles, such as atoms and molecules.

Atomic Number

All atoms are composed of the same basic particles. Yet all atoms are not the same. Atoms of different elements have different numbers of protons. Atoms of the same element all have the same number of protons. The **atomic number** (Z) of an element is the number of protons of each atom of that element.

Turn to the inside back cover of this textbook. In the periodic table shown, an element's atomic number is indicated above its symbol. Notice that the elements are placed in order of increasing atomic number. At the top left of the table is hydrogen, H, which has atomic number 1. All atoms of the element hydrogen have one proton. Next in order is helium, He, which has two protons. Lithium, Li, has three protons (see Figure 8); beryllium, Be, has four protons; and so on.

The atomic number identifies an element. If you want to know which element has atomic number 47, for example, look at the periodic table. You can see that the element is silver, Ag. All silver atoms have 47 protons. Because atoms are neutral, we know from the atomic number that all silver atoms must also have 47 electrons.

Isotopes

The simplest atoms are those of hydrogen. All hydrogen atoms have only one proton. However, like many naturally occurring elements, hydrogen atoms can have different numbers of neutrons.

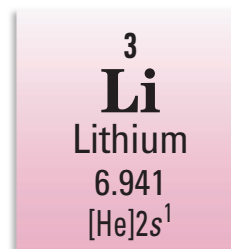


FIGURE 8 The atomic number in this periodic table entry reveals that an atom of lithium has three protons in its nucleus.

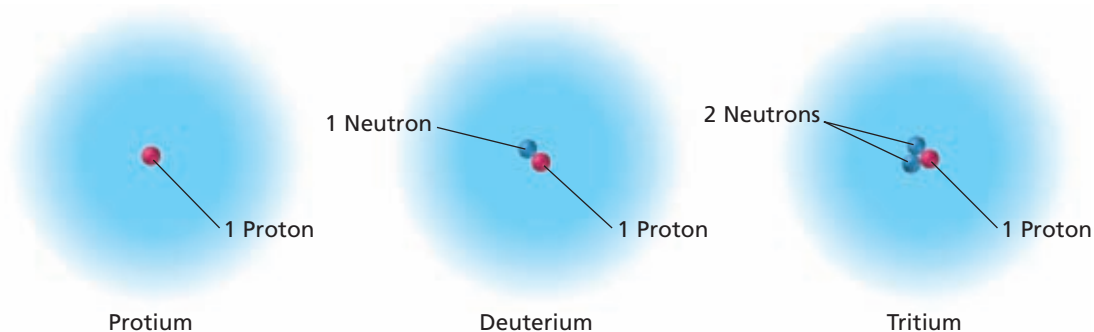


FIGURE 9 The nuclei of different isotopes of the same element have the same number of protons but different numbers of neutrons. This is illustrated above by the three isotopes of hydrogen.

Three types of hydrogen atoms are known. The most common type of hydrogen is sometimes called *protium*. It accounts for 99.9885% of the hydrogen atoms found on Earth. The nucleus of a protium atom consists of one proton only, and it has one electron moving about it. There are two other known forms of hydrogen. One is called *deuterium*, which accounts for 0.0115% of Earth's hydrogen atoms. Each deuterium atom has a nucleus with one proton and one neutron. The third form of hydrogen is known as *tritium*, which is radioactive. It exists in very small amounts in nature, but it can be prepared artificially. Each tritium atom has one proton, two neutrons, and one electron.

Protium, deuterium, and tritium are isotopes of hydrogen. **Isotopes are atoms of the same element that have different masses.** The isotopes of a particular element all have the same number of protons and electrons but different numbers of neutrons. In all three isotopes of hydrogen, the positive charge of the single proton is balanced by the negative charge of the electron. Most of the elements consist of mixtures of isotopes. Tin has 10 stable isotopes, for example, the most of any element.

Mass Number

Identifying an isotope requires knowing both the name or atomic number of the element and the mass of the isotope. *The mass number is the total number of protons and neutrons that make up the nucleus of an isotope.* The three isotopes of hydrogen described earlier have mass numbers 1, 2, and 3, as shown in **Table 2**.

TABLE 2 Mass Numbers of Hydrogen Isotopes

	Atomic number (number of protons)	Number of neutrons	Mass number (protons + neutrons)
Protium	1	0	$1 + 0 = 1$
Deuterium	1	1	$1 + 1 = 2$
Tritium	1	2	$1 + 2 = 3$

Designating Isotopes

The isotopes of hydrogen are unusual in that they have distinct names. Isotopes are usually identified by specifying their mass number. There are two methods for specifying isotopes. In the first method, the mass number is written with a hyphen after the name of the element. Tritium, for example, is written as hydrogen-3. We will refer to this method as *hyphen notation*. The uranium isotope used as fuel for nuclear power plants has a mass number of 235 and is therefore known as uranium-235. The second method shows the composition of a nucleus using the isotope's *nuclear symbol*. For example, uranium-235 is written as $^{235}_{92}\text{U}$. The superscript indicates the mass number (protons + neutrons) and the subscript indicates the atomic number (number of protons). The number of neutrons is found by subtracting the atomic number from the mass number.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{mass number} - \text{atomic number} &= \text{number of neutrons} \\ 235 (\text{protons} + \text{neutrons}) - 92 \text{ protons} &= 143 \text{ neutrons}\end{aligned}$$

Thus, a uranium-235 nucleus is made up of 92 protons and 143 neutrons.

Table 3 gives the names, symbols, and compositions of the isotopes of hydrogen and helium. **Nuclide** is a general term for a specific isotope of an element. We could say that **Table 3** lists the compositions of five different nuclides, three hydrogen nuclides and two helium nuclides.

TABLE 3 Isotopes of Hydrogen and Helium

Isotope	Nuclear symbol	Number of protons	Number of electrons	Number of neutrons
Hydrogen-1 (protium)	^1_1H	1	1	0
Hydrogen-2 (deuterium)	^2_1H	1	1	1
Hydrogen-3 (tritium)	^3_1H	1	1	2
Helium-3	^3_2He	2	2	1
Helium-4	^4_2He	2	2	2

SAMPLE PROBLEM A

How many protons, electrons, and neutrons are there in an atom of chlorine-37?

SOLUTION

- ANALYZE** **Given:** name and mass number of chlorine-37
Unknown: numbers of protons, electrons, and neutrons
- PLAN** atomic number = number of protons = number of electrons
mass number = number of neutrons + number of protons



- 3 COMPUTE** The mass number of chlorine-37 is 37. Consulting the periodic table reveals that chlorine's atomic number is 17. The number of neutrons can be found by subtracting the atomic number from the mass number.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{mass number of chlorine-37} - \text{atomic number of chlorine} &= \\ \text{number of neutrons in chlorine-37} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{mass number} - \text{atomic number} &= 37 \text{ (protons plus neutrons)} - 17 \text{ protons} \\ &= 20 \text{ neutrons} \end{aligned}$$

An atom of chlorine-37 is made up of 17 electrons, 17 protons, and 20 neutrons.

- 4 EVALUATE** The number of protons in a neutral atom equals the number of electrons. And the sum of the protons and neutrons equals the given mass number.

PRACTICE

Answers in Appendix E

1. How many protons, electrons, and neutrons make up an atom of bromine-80?
2. Write the nuclear symbol for carbon-13.
3. Write the hyphen notation for the isotope with 15 electrons and 15 neutrons.

extension

Go to **go.hrw.com** for more practice problems that ask you to work with numbers of subatomic particles.



Keyword: HC6ATMX

Relative Atomic Masses

Masses of atoms expressed in grams are very small. As we shall see, an atom of oxygen-16, for example, has a mass of 2.656×10^{-23} g. For most chemical calculations it is more convenient to use *relative* atomic masses. As you read in Chapter 2, scientists use standards of measurement that are constant and are the same everywhere. In order to set up a relative scale of atomic mass, one atom has been arbitrarily chosen as the standard and assigned a mass value. The masses of all other atoms are expressed in relation to this defined standard.

The standard used by scientists to compare units of atomic mass is the carbon-12 atom. It has been arbitrarily assigned a mass of exactly 12 atomic mass units, or 12 amu. *One atomic mass unit, or 1 amu, is exactly 1/12 the mass of a carbon-12 atom.* The atomic mass of any other atom is determined by comparing it with the mass of the carbon-12 atom. The hydrogen-1 atom has an atomic mass of *about* 1/12 that of the carbon-12 atom, or about 1 amu. The precise value of the atomic mass of a hydrogen-1 atom is 1.007 825 amu. An oxygen-16 atom has about 16/12 (or 4/3) the mass of a carbon-12 atom. Careful measurements show the atomic mass of oxygen-16 to be 15.994 915 amu. The mass of a magnesium-24 atom is found to be slightly less than twice that of a carbon-12 atom. Its atomic mass is 23.985 042 amu.

Some additional examples of the atomic masses of the naturally occurring isotopes of several elements are given in **Table 4** on the next page. Isotopes of an element may occur naturally, or they may be made in the laboratory (*artificial isotopes*). *Although isotopes have different masses, they do not differ significantly in their chemical behavior.*

The masses of subatomic particles can also be expressed on the atomic mass scale (see **Table 1**). The mass of the electron is 0.000 5486 amu, that of the proton is 1.007 276 amu, and that of the neutron is 1.008 665 amu. Note that the proton and neutron masses are close to but not equal to 1 amu. You have learned that the mass number is the total number of protons and neutrons that make up the nucleus of an atom. You can now see that the mass number and relative atomic mass of a given nuclide are quite close to each other. They are not identical because the proton and neutron masses deviate slightly from 1 amu and the atomic masses include electrons. Also, as you will read in Chapter 21, a small amount of mass is changed to energy in the creation of a nucleus from its protons and neutrons.

Average Atomic Masses of Elements

Most elements occur naturally as mixtures of isotopes, as indicated in **Table 4**. The percentage of each isotope in the naturally occurring element on Earth is nearly always the same, no matter where the element is found. The percentage at which each of an element's isotopes occurs in nature is taken into account when calculating the element's average atomic mass. **Average atomic mass** is the weighted average of the atomic masses of the naturally occurring isotopes of an element.

The following is a simple example of how to calculate a *weighted average*. Suppose you have a box containing two sizes of marbles. If 25% of the marbles have masses of 2.00 g each and 75% have masses of 3.00 g each, how is the weighted average calculated? You could count the number of each type of marble, calculate the total mass of the mixture, and divide by the total number of marbles. If you had 100 marbles, the calculations would be as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}25 \text{ marbles} \times 2.00 \text{ g} &= 50 \text{ g} \\75 \text{ marbles} \times 3.00 \text{ g} &= 225 \text{ g}\end{aligned}$$

Adding these masses gives the total mass of the marbles.

$$50 \text{ g} + 225 \text{ g} = 275 \text{ g}$$

Dividing the total mass by 100 gives an average marble mass of 2.75 g.

A simpler method is to multiply the mass of each marble by the decimal fraction representing its percentage in the mixture. Then add the products.

$$\begin{aligned}25\% &= 0.25 & 75\% &= 0.75 \\(2.00 \text{ g} \times 0.25) &+ (3.00 \text{ g} \times 0.75) &= 2.75 \text{ g}\end{aligned}$$

HISTORICAL CHEMISTRY

Discovery of Element 43

The discovery of element 43, technetium, is credited to Carlo Perrier and Emilio Segrè, who artificially produced it in 1937. However, in 1925, a German chemist named Ida Tacke reported the discovery of element 43, which she called masurium, in niobium ores. At the time, her discovery was not accepted because it was thought technetium could not occur naturally. Recent studies confirm that Tacke and coworkers probably did discover element 43.

TABLE 4 Atomic Masses and Abundances of Several Naturally Occurring Isotopes

Isotope	Mass number	Percentage natural abundance	Atomic mass (amu)	Average atomic mass of element (amu)
Hydrogen-1	1	99.9885	1.007 825	1.007 94
Hydrogen-2	2	0.0115	2.014 102	
Carbon-12	12	98.93	12 (by definition)	12.0107
Carbon-13	13	1.07	13.003 355	
Oxygen-16	16	99.757	15.994 915	15.9994
Oxygen-17	17	0.038	16.999 132	
Oxygen-18	18	0.205	17.999 160	
Copper-63	63	69.15	62.929 601	63.546
Copper-65	65	30.85	64.927 794	
Cesium-133	133	100	132.905 447	132.905
Uranium-234	234	0.0054	234.040 945	238.029
Uranium-235	235	0.7204	235.043 922	
Uranium-238	238	99.2742	238.050 784	

Calculating Average Atomic Mass

The average atomic mass of an element depends on both the mass and the relative abundance of each of the element's isotopes. For example, naturally occurring copper consists of 69.15% copper-63, which has an atomic mass of 62.929 601 amu, and 30.85% copper-65, which has an atomic mass of 64.927 794 amu. The average atomic mass of copper can be calculated by multiplying the atomic mass of each isotope by its relative abundance (expressed in decimal form) and adding the results.

$$0.6915 \times 62.929\,601\,\text{amu} + 0.3085 \times 64.927\,794\,\text{amu} = 63.55\,\text{amu}$$

The calculated average atomic mass of naturally occurring copper is 63.55 amu.

The average atomic mass is included for the elements listed in **Table 4**. As illustrated in the table, most atomic masses are known to four or more significant figures. *In this book, an element's atomic mass is usually rounded to two decimal places before it is used in a calculation.*

Relating Mass to Numbers of Atoms

The relative atomic mass scale makes it possible to know how many atoms of an element are present in a sample of the element with a measurable mass. Three very important concepts—the mole, Avogadro's number, and molar mass—provide the basis for relating masses in grams to numbers of atoms.

The Mole

The mole is the SI unit for amount of substance. A **mole** (abbreviated mol) is the amount of a substance that contains as many particles as there are atoms in exactly 12 g of carbon-12. The mole is a counting unit, just like a dozen is. We don't usually order 12 or 24 ears of corn; we order one dozen or two dozen. Similarly, a chemist may want 1 mol of carbon, or 2 mol of iron, or 2.567 mol of calcium. In the sections that follow, you will see how the mole relates to masses of atoms and compounds.

Avogadro's Number

The number of particles in a mole has been experimentally determined in a number of ways. The best modern value is $6.022\,141\,79 \times 10^{23}$. This means that exactly 12 g of carbon-12 contains $6.022\,141\,79 \times 10^{23}$ carbon-12 atoms. The number of particles in a mole is known as Avogadro's number, named for the nineteenth-century Italian scientist Amedeo Avogadro, whose ideas were crucial in explaining the relationship between mass and numbers of atoms. **Avogadro's number**— $6.022\,141\,79 \times 10^{23}$ —is the number of particles in exactly one mole of a pure substance. For most purposes, Avogadro's number is rounded to 6.022×10^{23} .

To get a sense of how large Avogadro's number is, consider the following: If every person living on Earth (6 billion people) worked to count the atoms in one mole of an element, and if each person counted continuously at a rate of one atom per second, it would take about 3 million years for all the atoms to be counted.

Molar Mass

An alternative definition of *mole* is the amount of a substance that contains Avogadro's number of particles. Can you figure out the approximate mass of one mole of helium atoms? You know that a mole of carbon-12 atoms has a mass of exactly 12 g and that a carbon-12 atom has an atomic mass of 12 amu. The atomic mass of a helium atom is 4.00 amu, which is about one-third the mass of a carbon-12 atom. It follows that a mole of helium atoms will have about one-third the mass of a mole of carbon-12 atoms. Thus, one mole of helium has a mass of about 4.00 g.

The mass of one mole of a pure substance is called the **molar mass** of that substance. Molar mass is usually written in units of g/mol. The molar mass of an element is numerically equal to the atomic mass of the element in atomic mass units (which can be found in the periodic table). For example, the molar mass of lithium, Li, is 6.94 g/mol, while the molar mass of mercury, Hg, is 200.59 g/mol (rounding each value to two decimal places).

The molar mass of an element contains one mole of atoms. For example, 4.00 g of helium, 6.94 g of lithium, and 200.59 g of mercury all contain a mole of atoms. **Figure 10** shows molar masses of three common elements.



(a)



(b)



(c)

FIGURE 10 Shown is approximately one molar mass of each of three elements: (a) carbon (graphite), (b) iron (nails), and (c) copper (wire).

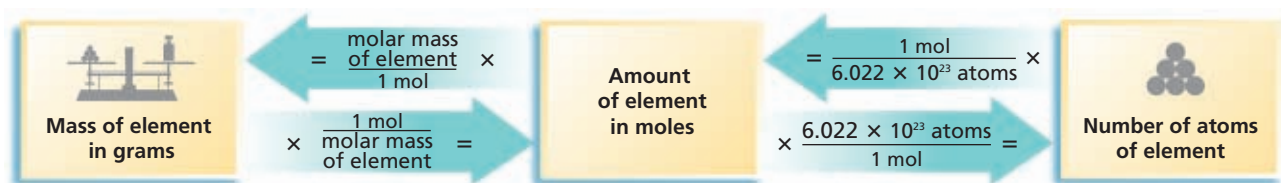


FIGURE 11 The diagram shows the relationship between mass in grams, amount in moles, and number of atoms of an element in a sample.

Gram/Mole Conversions

Chemists use molar mass as a conversion factor in chemical calculations. For example, the molar mass of helium is 4.00 g He/mol He. To find how many grams of helium there are in two moles of helium, multiply by the molar mass.

$$2.00 \text{ mol He} \times \frac{4.00 \text{ g He}}{1 \text{ mol He}} = 8.00 \text{ g He}$$

Figure 11 shows how to use molar mass, moles, and Avogadro's number to relate mass in grams, amount in moles, and number of atoms of an element.

SAMPLE PROBLEM B

For more help, go to the *Math Tutor* at the end of this chapter.

What is the mass in grams of 3.50 mol of the element copper, Cu?

SOLUTION

1 ANALYZE

Given: 3.50 mol Cu

Unknown: mass of Cu in grams

2 PLAN

amount of Cu in moles \longrightarrow mass of Cu in grams

According to **Figure 11**, the mass of an element in grams can be calculated by multiplying the amount of the element in moles by the element's molar mass.

$$\text{moles Cu} \times \frac{\text{grams Cu}}{\text{moles Cu}} = \text{grams Cu}$$

3 COMPUTE

The molar mass of copper from the periodic table is rounded to 63.55 g/mol.

$$3.50 \text{ mol Cu} \times \frac{63.55 \text{ g Cu}}{1 \text{ mol Cu}} = 222 \text{ g Cu}$$

4 EVALUATE

Because the amount of copper in moles was given to three significant figures, the answer was rounded to three significant figures. The size of the answer is reasonable because it is somewhat more than 3.5 times 60.

PRACTICE*Answers in Appendix E*

1. What is the mass in grams of 2.25 mol of the element iron, Fe?
2. What is the mass in grams of 0.375 mol of the element potassium, K?
3. What is the mass in grams of 0.0135 mol of the element sodium, Na?
4. What is the mass in grams of 16.3 mol of the element nickel, Ni?

extension

Go to **go.hrw.com** for more practice problems that ask you to convert from amount in moles to mass.



Keyword: HC6ATMX

SAMPLE PROBLEM C*For more help, go to the **Math Tutor** at the end of this chapter.*

A chemist produced 11.9 g of aluminum, Al. How many moles of aluminum were produced?

SOLUTION**1 ANALYZE****Given:** 11.9 g Al**Unknown:** amount of Al in moles**2 PLAN**mass of Al in grams \longrightarrow amount of Al in moles

As shown in **Figure 11**, amount in moles can be obtained by *dividing* mass in grams by molar mass, which is mathematically the same as *multiplying* mass in grams by the *reciprocal* of molar mass.

$$\text{grams Al} \times \frac{\text{moles Al}}{\text{grams Al}} = \text{moles Al}$$

3 COMPUTE

The molar mass of aluminum from the periodic table is rounded to 26.98 g/mol.

$$11.9 \text{ g Al} \times \frac{1 \text{ mol Al}}{26.98 \text{ g Al}} = 0.441 \text{ mol Al}$$

4 EVALUATE

The answer is correctly given to three significant figures. The answer is reasonable because 11.9 g is somewhat less than half of 26.98 g.

PRACTICE*Answers in Appendix E*

1. How many moles of calcium, Ca, are in 5.00 g of calcium?
2. How many moles of gold, Au, are in 3.60×10^{-5} g of gold?
3. How many moles of zinc, Zn, are in 0.535 g of zinc?

extension

Go to **go.hrw.com** for more practice problems that ask you to convert from mass to amount in moles.



Keyword: HC6ATMX